

The 26th Session of the Committee on Forestry of FAO (COFO26)

3-7 October 2022

Item 4 ‘State of World’s Forests 2022: Forest pathways for green recovery and building resilient and sustainable economies’ (COFO/2022/2)

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

- Thailand appreciates the 2022 edition of ‘The State of the World’s Forests’ (SOFO) and fully agrees on the transformative potential of the three forest pathways.
- Thailand is committed to protect, restore and sustainably use forests and non-wood forest products.
- We are aware that the health of our economy depends on the health of our natural resources.
- Our strategy to promote the conservation and sustainable use of forests currently focus on raising awareness on the multiple benefits deriving from healthy forests and on highlighting the interconnection between natural resources and livelihoods.
- The concept of ‘living in harmony with forests’ is implemented in Thailand since 1974 in line with the ‘Sufficiency Economy Philosophy’ of the late King of Thailand, His Majesty Rama IX the Great.
- In our Country, community-based forest management is a widely accepted best practice, with more than 9,300 community-managed forests have been recognized, covering over 640,000 hectares across the Country.
- Thailand’s Smart Patrol system, first introduced to Thailand over a decade ago, has been internationally accepted as one of the world’s most effective forest patrol and protection systems, particularly to detect poaching activities that remote sensing cannot identify.
- Thailand considers climate finance to be crucial to reduce deforestation and forest degradation, and agrees on the need to mobilize private finance to integrate public funding gaps. We request FAO to further facilitate access to climate financing for forests.
- With this statement, we encourage FAO to keep providing technical assistance to implement the three forest pathways for a post pandemic recovery in harmony with nature.

Thank you